

Parley Alexander Murdock the third son of Joseph Stacey Murdock and Elizabeth Hunter was born February 3rd. 1853 in American Fork, Utah. Utah County.

At the age of 3 he moved to Heber with his family. His parents owned sheep and cattle, in fact his Grandmother Sally Murdock brought the first sheep into Salt Lake valley. Parley and his brother's herded sheep and cattle. When he was 9 years old his parents were called to Dixie on the Muddy river to colonize, Parley with his brother's Jim and Al drove cattle and walked a good part of the way.

Life was very rugged and they endured many hardships. After 3 years the family was released by Brigham Young to return home. Parley's father took the contract to carry the mail; from Provo to Hono, he kept the contract for 6 years. He had 2 boy's riding every day except Sunday. Many times when the water was high and bridges were washed out Joseph would go to the river have the boy's un-dress then tie their clothes and the mail sack high on their shoulders, push the horse off the bank into the water then wait until the horse and boy's were safe on the other side where the boy's would dress and ride on with the mail.

When Parley was 14 years old he went to work for the Chipmans in American Fork, Utah, then for the Turners Sawmill. He worked for several years there, he also worked on the logging camp which took a lot of courage and skill. His Father was called to St. George, Utah to do people work so Parley gave up his job to care for his father's farm and manage the mail contract.

Before he was married he worked for the Government at the Indian Agency. He issued supplies to the Indians and could speak the language fluently. For many years Indians from Uintah would come to hear on different occasions and would camp in the pasture behind the barn. Dick Wainrodes and his wife Sadie stayed in his home several times.

Parley was called "P. A. Parley or Parl Murdock thru out his life.

He met Lucy Rebecca Handley at a dance, they were a good looking couple, Lucy was 16 and P. A. was 25 years old when they were married, they were the parents of 12 children but only raised 7 of them, they also raised 4 Grand-children.

In Oct. 1900 their oldest daughter Eleanor M. Petersen died, leaving a 3 week old baby daughter, a 4 year old son and a son 1 1/2 years old. As P. A. had always wanted to be a sheep man his son-in-law Joseph H. Petersen sold his home in Park City and leaving his children with the Murdock Grand-children he and P.A. pooled their money and bought some sheep, P.A.'s son Joe was also a partner.

P. A. was also in the cattler business with his brother's Jim and Andrew.

In the fall of 1903 P.A. Murdock and his son-in-law Joseph H. Petersen bought 16 parcels with James S. and Andrew Murdock the Great Salt Co. The sheep were divided with the various partners, each with their own permit. P.A. Murdock and J. H. Petersen as partner's took a permit, then they bought 4 parcels of land located on the West Fork of the Duchesne river, 4 home-steads owned by the Buckley Brothers.

The 1st the Jeremy Ranch located next to the Buckley home-stead on the West Fork of the Duchesne river where Wolf Creek enters the river was bought by P.A. Murdock and J. H. Petersen, they ran 2 herds of sheep, 3000 head on summer permits, 1 herd in Rhoades canyon the 2nd permit on North Fork of the Duchesne river, on the west side adjoining the ranch and turning up the river to Trail Hollow, Trail Mt. and Iron Mt. The 1st. permit in Rhoades Canyon joined the boundary line of the ranch at the entrance of Rhoades Canyon.

They ran this operation until 1925. The Partnership was then dissolved, the ranch and sheep were divided P.A. and his son Joe taking the ranch from Wolf Creek up the West Fork river, Joseph H. Petersen taking the lower half of the ranch on the West Fork river. The

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Murdock's taking the Rhoades Canyon permit, J. H. Petersen the North Fork permit. P.A. Murdock and his son Joe continued on in the Sheep business for many years after.

"Aunt Lucy" as she was called by many was a wonderful Mother, home-maker and Friend, very neat with herself and home, an excellent cook, her home was open to all. She passed away at her home in Heber April 18th. 1930 or an ear infection at age 65.

P.A. and Lucy were active in community and Church affairs, always helping the Poor and needy and their family.

After Lucy's death P.A. lived 22 lonely years, His word was his bond, He kept his promises, if he promised you a licking for dis-obeying you got the licking, always later, never when he was angry. He loved to read and would read to us kids, play games and on Friday nights he always took us to the show.

In the Spring he would buy 1,000 Yearling Ewes to be delivered in the fall, His word and hand-shake was the contract, He would also sell sheep and would deliver the Best as contracted.

His daughter Alice and family lived with him at the old home for some time then he moved in with his daughter Reta Dean then he lived with his son Joe and family until his death June 12th. 1952 at the age of 95 years.

Brought to me by
Dorothy Murdock Reffler
(Zenn)

PEDIGREE CHART

12-13-87

NAME

STREET ADDRESS OR P.O.

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

NO. 1 ON THIS CHART

IS THE SAME AS NO. _____

ON CHART NO. _____

1

BORN

WHERE

WHEN MARRIED

DIED

WHERE

NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE

NAME OF RECORD OR BOOK WHERE THIS
INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED. REFER TO
NAMES ON CHART BY NUMBER.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

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2 Parley Alexander MURDOCK

BORN

WHERE

WHEN MARRIED

DIED

WHERE

3

BORN

WHERE

DIED

WHERE

Lucy

HUNDLEY

4

Joseph Stacy MURDOCK

BORN

WHERE

WHEN MARRIED

DIED

WHERE

5

Elizabeth HUNTER

BORN

WHERE

DIED

WHERE

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Thomas A. D. W. HUNDLEY

BORN

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WHEN MARRIED

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Margaret Eleanor HARRIS

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Sally STACY

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In the fall of 1906 P.A. Murdock and his son-in-law Joseph H. Petersen bought in junction with James S. and Andrew Murdock the Carter Sheep Co. The sheep were divided with the various partners, each with thier own permits. P.A. Murdock and J. H. Petersen as partner's took a permit, then they bought 4 parcels of land located on the West Fork of the Duchesne river, 4 home-steads owned by the Buckley Brothers.

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